

REMEDIAL SITE ASSESSMENT DECISION – EPA Region 04

Site Name: LAKE CONESTEE

Alias(es):

City: GREENVILLE

County or Parish: GREENVILLE

State: SC

Refer to Report Dated: 08/06/2021

EPA ID: SCN000407298

Report Developed By: STATE

State ID:

Report Type: Site Inspection #001

Decision Date: 09/29/2021

☒ **1. Further Remedial Site Assessment Under CERCLA (Superfund) is not required because:**

NFRAP-Site does not qualify for the NPL based on existing information

☐ **2. Further Assessment Needed Under CERCLA.**

☐ **3. Remedial study/cleanup needed.**

Decision/Rationale:

Lake Conestee has been silted-in and impacted by point and non-point sources within the 65-square mile watershed. Previous investigations concluded that historical activities upstream impacted the sediments within the historical boundary of the lake with metals, semi-volatile organic compounds, PAHs, pesticides, and PCBs. The Lake Conestee site was evaluated using the contaminated sediments within the lake as the source. Sediment samples collected within the historical footprint of Lake Conestee contained elevated concentrations of metals, SVOCs and PCBs in shallow and deep sediments. Sampling delineated an area of wetlands subject to Level II contamination within the former lake. However, the significantly higher levels of contamination identified in previous investigations were not found.

Samples collected from the Reedy River below the dam contained significantly lower PAH concentrations in both the shallow and deep sampling locations when compared to the sediments in Lake Conestee and the Reedy River upstream. The sampling data indicates that the river below Lake Conestee is not currently being impacted by the contaminated sediments behind the dam. Most of the sampling locations in Lake Conestee were selected because of high PAH concentrations detected in the same location during previous environmental sampling at the Site. The sampling for this SI was not as deep as previous sampling. Significantly impacted sediments that were detected in previous sampling were four to sixteen feet below the shallower sediments that are relevant for HRS scoring purposes. The 2020 Site Inspection sampling data indicates that the impacted sediments found in the past have been covered over by newer sediments deposited since the Brownfield's studies conducted in the 2000's. As a result of the Brownfields studies, SCDHEC and CFI concluded that the best strategy for managing the contaminated sediments within the lake would be a program of "monitored natural recovery", which would allow the natural capping of lake sediments. In 2007, the parties signed a Restrictive Covenant defining CFIs obligations, which included minimizing human exposure to contaminated sediments, to minimize the disturbance of the lake sediments, to maintain the dam in good condition and to conduct annual inspection of the dam.

The SI sampling data indicates that the strategy of "monitored natural recovery" adopted in the VCC has been a success, based on the buildup of less impacted sediments in Lake Conestee. Due to the functioning remedial process of sedimentation within the lake and the continued monitoring (and annual reporting) required as part of the Restrictive Covenant, the Lake Conestee site is recommended for designation under the Other Cleanup Activities status.


Given the volume and nature of impacted sediments previously identified at the Site and contained behind the Lake Conestee Dam, additional CERCLA investigations should be considered if new information is obtained or future site conditions change significantly, such as a dam failure or revised site access/ownership. It is recommended that the CFI continue to pursue strategies to reinforce the dam, working with regional and national partners. The U.S. Environmental

Decision/Rationale (Continued):

Protection Agency (EPA) has determined that no further remedial action by the Federal Superfund program is warranted at the referenced site, at this time. The basis for the no further remedial action planned (NFRAP) determination is provided below. A NFRAP designation means that no additional remedial steps under the Federal Superfund program will be taken at the site unless new information warranting further Superfund consideration or conditions not previously known to EPA regarding the site are disclosed. In accordance with EPA's decision regarding the tracking of NFRAP sites, the referenced site may be removed from EPA's Active site inventory and placed in a separate Archive site inventory as an historical record if no further Superfund interest is warranted. Archived sites may be returned to the Active site inventory if new information necessitating further Superfund consideration is discovered.

Site Decision Made By: Alayna Famble

Signature: ALAYNA FAMBLE

 Digitally signed by ALAYNA FAMBLE
Date: 2021.09.29 10:20:43 -04'00'

Decision Date: 09/29/2021